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IN THE US PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/706,205

Filing date: 11/13/2003

First Named Inventor: **Bor Z. Jang**

Application Title: **TWIN-WIRE ARC DEPOSITED ELECTRODE, SOLID  
ELECTROLYTE MEMBRANE, MEMBRANE ELECTRODE  
ASSEMBLY AND FUEL CELL**

Examiner: Mr. **Raymond Alejandro**

Art Unit: 1745

Mailed Dec. 19, 2006

**Election/Restriction**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313 - 1450

Sir:

Responsive to Office Action Summary mailed 11/27/2006, we would like to request Species I (Claims 1-19, 42,43) and Species IV (Claims 39-41, 46,47) be prosecuted first.

**(It may be noted that Claims 42 and 43 are dependent claims of Claim 1 and, hence, should be included in Species I. Also, Claims 44 and 45 are dependent claims of Claim 20 and, hence, should be included in Species II)**

Species IV are a continuation of Species I, explained as follows:


- (1) Species I, including Claims 1-19, 42,43, are drawn to a method for fabricating a membrane for use in a fuel cell membrane-electrode assembly (MEA) while Species IV, including Claims 39-41,46,47, are drawn to a method for making an MEA.
- (2) Steps (A) and (B) in Claim 39 are identical to Claim 1 in its entirety. In other words, Claim 1 only contains Steps (A) and (B), which are identical to Steps (A) and (B) of Claim 39.

- (3) By re-writing Claim 39 to become a dependent claim of Claim 1, one can clearly see that Species I and Species IV become closely related. Hence, with your permission, we would like to propose the following preliminary amendments: To re-write Claims 39-41, 46, and 47 in such a manner that they become dependent claims of Claim 1..

Respectfully,

  
Bor Z. Jang

  
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